8th December 1954]

Provision of midday meals to Harijan students in the elementary schools in Tiruvallur taluk.

* 147 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of schools in Tiruvallur taluk run by the district board, Director of Harijan Welfare and private parties, respectively;

(*b*) how many schools are providing midday meals to students of Harijan communities and backward classes; and

(*c*) the number of hostels in the taluk?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers only to the number of elementary schools in Tiruvallur taluk. The number of such schools in Tiruvallur taluk run by the district board, Director of Harijan Welfare and private parties is as follows :—

District boards—120.

Harijan Welfare Department—12.

Private parties—61.

" (*b*) Midday meals are supplied to students of Harijan communities in all the 12 schools under the control of Harijan Welfare Department. Midday meals are not supplied to those belonging to backward classes.

" (*c*) One."

Sri A. RATNAM :—" திருவள்ளூர் தாலூகாவிலுள்ள எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலைகளிலிருந்து ஹரிஜன மாணவர்களுக்குப் பகல் உணவு கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று எத்தனை மனுக்கள் வந்துள்ளன? எந்த மனுவும் கவனிக்கப்படாததற்குக் காரணம் கூறமுடியுமா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, midday meals are served to Harijan students only in schools run by the Harijan Welfare Department and in all the other schools, we are serving midday meals to students belonging to the Harijan community. With regard to the other information wanted by the hon. Member, I want separate notice."

Sri S. DHARMALINGAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that a large number of schools though sanctioned have not been opened for want of buildings? Will the Government consider the desirability of taking up the construction of buildings under the Local Development Scheme or the National Extension Service? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The main question is about midday meals. The hon. Member wants some other information. All right, if the Hon. Minister is prepared to answer, I have no objection."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I shall consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."